

# **Messler family letters**

## **S946**

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December 17, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-232-3671

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Creator</b>	Harper, Roxana
<b>Creator</b>	Messler, James
<b>Creator</b>	Messler, Mary
<b>Title</b>	Messler family letters
<b>Date</b>	1858-1896
<b>Extent</b>	0.02 Cubic feet 2 folders
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	S946-1
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	S946-2

### Preferred Citation

Messler family letters, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Biographical Note

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James W. Messler was born in Hamilton County, Ohio on June 10, 1830. In 1839 his family moved to Union County, Indiana. During his youth, Messler worked as a farm hand and later obtained employment with the Whitewater and Erie Canal. In 1853, he began flat boating along the Mississippi River and came upon an opportunity to travel to Australia. Messler worked in a mine for two years in the Castle Main Region. In 1855 he and J.B. Gray opened a mercantile in Wedderburn. Messler sold his interest in the store in 1858 and set off for the United States. In October of 1858 he purchased a farm in Clinton County, and served as a Private with Company I, 100th Infantry Indiana Regiment. He mustered out on June 8, 1865 and returned to Clinton County. Messler married Mary C. Leach in Clinton County on April 27, 1871. They had seven children together, James, Harry, Bertha, Daisy, Elsie, Bessie, and Robert. James W. Messler died in Frankfort, Indiana on March 14, 1894.

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## Scope and Contents

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The first half of this collection consists of letters written to Henry P. Messler in Oxford, Ohio from James and Mary Messler and Roxana Harper. The second half includes letters written to Charles L. Harper. There are a few letters in the second portion of the collection where the author and/or recipient are unknown.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

## **Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

## **Conditions Governing Use**

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

## **Custodial History**

This collection was purchased by the Rare Books and Manuscripts from Howard Chatfield on 1936/12/31.

## **Accruals**

No further additions are expected.

## **Processing Information**

Collection processing completed during March 2006 by Elizabeth M. Wilkinson. EAD finding aid created 2014/12/17 by Bethany Fiechter.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Oxford (Ohio)

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Harper, Charles L.
- Messler, Henry P.

### **Subject(s)**

- Correspondence